GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3049
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2000
ENCOURAGEMENT TO WOODEN HANDICRAFT
SURESH KODIKUNNIL

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to encourage Wooden Handicraft from Peninsula/India for export;

(b) if so, the details of the export of Wooden Handicrafts in both quantity and value, State-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve and encourage Handicraft Development in Kerala; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to protect the interests of people engaged in production of handicrafts?

Answer

(MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Quantity-wise/State-wise export data are not maintained. However the export of wooden handicrafts during the last three years is as under:-

(Rs in crores)

Sl.No.	Year	Exports
1.	1997-98	218.70
2.	1998-99	286.04 (Provisional)
3.	1999-2000	348.95(Provisional)

(c) & (d): The steps taken by the Government to improve and encourage handicrafts in Kerala and to protect the interests of artisans in the country include: assistance to Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi (Kerala) under UNDP assisted cane & bamboo project; setting up of wood seasoning plant at Thiruvananthapuram, identification of craft clusters for Integrated Development; publication of international catalogue on wood & wooden handicrafts by Export Promotion Council for handicrafts; design and technical development; setting up of common facilities centre/crafts development centre and emporia; training; exhibition and publicity; workshed-cum-housing and group insurance etc.